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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/761,705	01/18/2001	Jen-Diann Chiou	EM/CHIOU/6416	4724

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CAM LINH T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 07/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/761,705

Applicant(s)

CHIOU ET AL.

Examiner

CamLinh Nguyen

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim cannot depend on itself. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. In claim 1 and 16, Applicant refers to "quick linking". However, Applicant fails to define these terms in the disclosure.

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1 and 16, Applicant refers to "quick linking". However, Applicant fails to define these terms in the disclosure. In the interest of compact prosecution, the terms "quick linking" are assumed as a normal linking that links the documents.

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In claim 1 and 16, Applicant refers to “ a title definition item, a body definition item, a keyword definition item, and a category definition item”. However, Applicant fails to define these terms in the disclosure. In the interest of compact prosecution, it is assumed that “ a title definition item” is a title document; a body definition item is the body of the document; a keyword definition item is the keyword of the document; and a category definition item is the category of document based on an Example in page 8 of the disclosure.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1 – 11, 14 - 25, 28 – 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Kelly Wical (U.S. 6,460,034) in view of Hajime Takano (U.S. 5,983,246).

♦ As per claim 1, 16, 18,

Wical discloses a method of establishing electronic documents for storing, retrieving, categorizing and quick linking to enable a user to browse the electronic documents and related information via a network, comprising:

- “Establishing an electronic document via the network” See Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 29 - 41.
- “Individually storing each electronic document according to every definition item” See Fig. 11B where each document is stored under a corresponding category or classification.
- “Generating links among the different electronic documents” See Fig. 8 of Wical.

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- “Displaying a plurality of data category items from which the user is able to choose” See Fig. 8 – 12, col. 18, lines 36 - 46 of Wical.
- “Receiving a user query” See Fig. 2, Wical
- “Extracting a conforming electronic document by performing a predetermined algorithm to compare every definition item of each electronic document and selecting other related electronic documents having the same keyword or category” See Fig. 2 – 5 where Fig. 2 discloses a processing of query terms (col. 8, lines 29 – 30, 53 – 65). Fig. 3 is the response to the query by utilizing the knowledge base, identifies terminology related to the query terms (col. 9, lines 39 – 41). Fig. 5 is a flow diagram for query processing (col. 13, lines 27 – 31. “A predetermined algorithm” corresponds to the predefined criteria that calculated the document theme in table 1 – 6 (col. 14, lines 1 – 4).
- “Converting definition items of the conforming electronic document and a plurality of references from the related electronic documents into a predetermined format to generate hyperlinks for the definition items and the references” See Fig. 10C. Wical teaches that the document can be the compilation of multiple sources (col. 5, lines 35 – 36). It can include articles, books, periodicals, etc. (col. 5, lines 40 – 41). Therefore, the system must convert the sources into a predefined format to generate hyperlinks (As shown in Fig. 10).

Wical does not clearly teach:

- “ The document comprising: a title definition item, a body definition item, a keyword definition item, and a category definition item”.

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According to Fig. 10B - C, Wical discloses a result search that comprises the document titles correspond to the computer networking category. The content of the document will be displayed when user clicks on the document title, and the keyword is “stocks” as seen in Fig. 10C. Therefore, it is clear that the claimed provision is inherent.

On the other hand, Takano, discloses a classification system that comprises:

- “A title definition item” See col. 15, lines 35 – 38, Takano
- “A body definition item” See col. 6, lines 64 – 67 of Takano. The “body” corresponds to the content of the document.
- “A keyword definition item” See Fig. 3, col. 8, lines 51 – 55 of Takano.
- “A category definition item” See col. 7, lines 8 – 15 of Takano.

Takano does not clearly teach that the documents will be linked to each other. However, referring to col. 15, lines 41 – 43, where Takano teaches that the hierarchical structure for classification can be used. It is well known in the art that the hierarchical structure provides the relationship between different levels or categories. It is inherent that Takano included the link between categories by using the hierarchical relationship. Since Takano and Wical are in the same technology field (storing and retrieving system), it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the teaching of Takano for defining the document parts, if the limitation of the above were not inherent because the teaching would provide the user the capability in managing the documents in a faster way.

◆ As per claim 2,

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- “Providing an on-line electronic document-establishing form in a root structure system, which enables an authorized data author to edit a new electronic document via the network” See Fig. 9, element 66, col. 11, lines 55 – 67, Takano.

◆ As per claim 3,

- “ Simultaneously displaying a converted electronic document and the references of the associated data” the system of Takano allow the provider manual register the document into the system (Fig. 3), therefore, it must have a display for the provider in order to view and modify the documents (col. 6, lines 17 – 20, Takano).

◆ As per claim 4,

- “Providing a managing function to an authorized administrator to control all electronic documents” See col. 6, lines 48 – 53, Takano where the “administrator” corresponds to the service provider.

◆ As per claim 5, 17,

- “Temporarily storing each extracted electronic document and its related data in order and providing a managing function of stored data” see Fig. 10, Takano.

◆ As per claim 6, 20,

- “Establishing category definition items in a tree structure” See Fig. 4, Wical.

◆ As per claim 7, 21,

- “Automatically providing the keyword definition item and the category definition item for the authorized data author” See col. 5, lines 42 – 49, Wical.

◆ As per claim 8, 19,

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- “The category definition item is used to define a domain classification of each new electronic document, and each electronic document can be referenced to a plurality of different category definition items” See fig. 4, col. 7, lines 2 – 4, 45 – 55, Wical.
- ◆ As per claim 9, 22,
 - “Each new electronic document has at least one keyword which is defined according to the content of the electronic document” See fig. 1, col. 5, lines 42 – 59, Wical.
- ◆ As per claim 10, 23 - 24
 - “The related electronic documents of each electronic document are extracted by performing a predetermined algorithm to calculate the relative relatedness of each electronic document according to the keywords and the categories, and a complementary weighting of the keywords and the categories of the algorithm can be modulated” See col. 11, lines 56 – col. 12 lines 22.
- ◆ As per claim 11, 25,
 - “Each keyword can be defined as identical to a plurality of synonyms” See col. 11, lines 56 – col. 12 lines 22.
- ◆ As per claim 14, 28,
 - “When each new electronic document is generated, all temporarily stored electronic documents and related data are eliminated” See Fig. 4, step 41, Takano.
- ◆ As per claim 15, 29
 - “The electronic document includes: text files, documents, pictures, photographs, drawings, voice file, film file and video stream” See col. 8, lines 48 – 51, Takano).

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8. Claims 12 – 13, 26 – 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kelly Wical (U.S. 6,460,034) in view of Hajime Takano (U.S. 5,983,246) as applied to claims 1 – 11, 14 – 25, 28 – 29 above, and further in view of Livingston et al (U.S. 6,424,979).

♦ As per claim 12 – 13, 26 – 27,

- “The predetermined format is programmed using Extensible Markup Language (XML) or Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL)”, and “the content and the definition item of each electronic document are stored as Extensible Markup Language. (XML)”

The combination of Wical and Takano fails to disclose the predetermined format is the XML or XSL format.

However, Livingston discloses a database server that contents documents in XML format (See Fig. 4, col. 6, lines 22 – 33, col. 11, lines 43 – 45).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the teaching of Livingston into the combination of Wical and Takano because the combination would simplify the process since the XML includes plurality of tags (col. 6, lines 5 – 8, Livingston).

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Teare et al (U.S. 6,151,624) discloses a navigating network resources based on metadata.
- Teng et al (U.S. 6,631,367) discloses a method to search for information.
- Francis et al (U.S. 5,761,418) discloses an information navigation system using clusterized information resource topology.


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10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CamLinh Nguyen whose telephone number is 305-1951. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 308-1436. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LN


WAYNE AMSBURY
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER